

Appl. No. 10/709,425
Amdt. dated March 06, 2006
Reply to Office action of December 19, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph:

5 Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Response:

 Claim 6 has been cancelled, and is no longer in need of consideration.

10 2. Rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 101:

 Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Response:

15 Claim 6 has been cancelled, and is no longer in need of consideration.

3. Rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

 Claims 1-4 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khan (US 5,377,203) in view of West (US 6,940,271).

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Response:

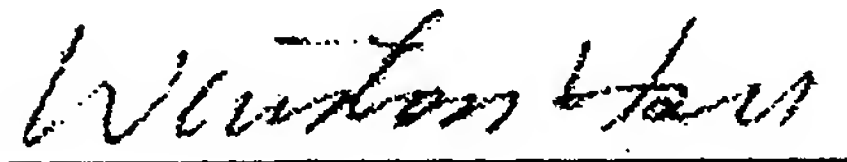
 Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Claim 1 now contains the limitations previously contained in original claims 2 and 5. Claim 5 had been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the
25 limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

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5 Claim 7 has also been amended to contain the limitations previously found in original claims 2 and 5, and should now also be in allowable form. Claims 3-4 and 8-11 are dependent on claims 1 and 7, respectively, and should be allowed if independent claims 1 and 7 are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1, 3-4, and 7-11 is respectfully requested.

10 In view of the amendments made to the claims, all claims should now be in allowable form. The applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,



Date: 03/06/2006

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